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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/734,589	12/15/2003	Serengulam V. Govindan	328884	2607
63322	7590	02/12/2009	EXAMINER	
IMMUNOMEDICS, INC.			FETTEROLF, BRANDON J	
300 AMERICAN ROAD			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
MORRIS PLAINS, NJ 07950			1642	
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
02/12/2009		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/734,589	Applicant(s) GOVINDAN, SERENGULAM V.
	Examiner BRANDON J. FETTEROLF	Art Unit 1642

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If no period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 December 2008.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-5, 8, 14, 15, 17-30, 32-34, 36-45 and 48-73 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) 5-8 and 51-62 is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) 1, 14-15, 17-30, 33-34, 36-45, 48-50 and 63-73 is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 32 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 12/17/2008 has been entered.

Claims 1, 5-8, 14-15, 17-30, 32-34, 36-45, 48-73 are pending.

Claims 5-8 and 51-62 are withdrawn from consideration as being drawn to non-elected inventions.

Claims 1, 14-15, 17-30, 32-34, 36-45, 48-50 and 63-73 are currently under consideration.

Note: The species election has been withdrawn.

Rejections Withdrawn:

All previous rejections have been withdrawn in view of Applicants amendments to remove polyethylene glycol. The rejection of Claims 1, 15, 17, 18-30, 32-34, 36-45, 48-50 and 63-67 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement is withdrawn in view of Applicants amendments.

New Rejection:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

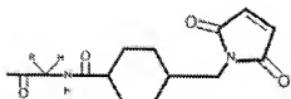
The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 32 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

A broad range or limitation together with a narrow range or limitation that falls within the broad range or limitation (in the same claim) is considered indefinite, since the resulting claim does

not clearly set forth the metes and bounds of the patent protection desired. See MPEP § 2173.05(c). Note the explanation given by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences in *Ex parte Witz*, 10 USPQ2d 2031, 2033 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1989), as to where broad language is followed by "such as" and then narrow language. The Board stated that this can render a claim indefinite by raising a question or doubt as to whether the feature introduced by such language is (a) merely exemplary of the remainder of the claim, and therefore not required, or (b) a required feature of the claims. Note also, for example, the decisions of *Ex parte Steigewald*, 131 USPQ 74 (Bd. App. 1961); *Ex parte Hall*, 83 USPQ 38 (Bd. App. 1948); and *Ex parte Hasche*, 86 USPQ 481 (Bd. App. 1949). In the present instance, claim 32 recites the broad recitation of a linker comprising a (i) a thiol reactive functional group that binds to a thiol group on the antibody and (ii) a water-solubilizing moiety selected from the group consisting of ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA), diethylenetriaminepentaacetic acid (DTPA), triethylenetetraminehexaacetic acid (TTHA), benzyl-DTPA, 1,4,7,10-tetraazacyclododecane-N,N',N'',N'''-tetraacetic acid (DOTA), benzyl-DOTA, 1,4,7-triazacyclononane- N,N',N''-triacetic acid (NOTA), benzyl-NOTA, 1,4,8,11-tetraazacyclotetradecane- 1,4,8,11-tetraacetic acid (TETA) and N,N'- dialkyl substituted piperazine,



and the claim also recites that the linker is of the formula ,
wherein wherein R is an amino acid side chain, said amino acid selected from the group consisting of glycine, alanine, valine, leucine, isoleucine, proline, serine, threonine, cysteine, methionine, asparagine, glutamine, phenylalanine, tyrosine, tryptophan, lysine, arginine, histidine, aspartate and glutamate. However, the linker as described in the formula does not comprise the water solubilizing moiety as described by the broad recitation of a linker.

Conclusion

While the state of the art at the time the invention was made recognizes the use of the claimed water-soluble moieties as chelators for radiometals, the state of the art at the time the invention was made appears to be silent on the use of these agents for linking a chemotherapeutic

moiety to an antibody. As such, Claims 1, 14-15, 17-30, 33-34, 36-45, 48-50 and 63-73 appear to be in condition for allowance.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BRANDON J. FETTEROLF whose telephone number is (571)272-2919. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 7:30 to 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Larry Helms can be reached on 571-272-0832. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Brandon J Fetterolf
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1642

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